(7) VDCs have been constituted in the areas of Chamba district which are contiguous to J and K and SPOs have also been deployed in these areas;

(8) Patrolling and checking of Trains has been intensified;

(9) Use of Sniffer Dogs in the checking of trains; and

(10) Intelligence sharing meetings are being held regularly between Himahcal and J and K Police and intelligence agencies.

Displaced Kashmiris

1400. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 3.5 lakh Kashmiris have been displaced due to political violence in the Kashmir Valley over the past one year;

(b) whether 2.2 lakh Tibetans and Sri Lankans who have taken shelter in the country constitute India's largest refugee population; and

(c) if so, what steps Government in initiating to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) As per available information, 51122 Kashmiri migrant families are temporarily staying in different parts of the Country due to disturbances in Kashmir Valley. Out of this, majority of Kashmiri migrants are staying in Jammu (29074 families) and Delhi (19338 families).

(b) and (c) *Tibetan:* There were about 93100 Tibetan refugees in India as on 31.3.1999. Majority of these refugees have settled themselves either through self-employment or with Government's assistance under agricultural and handicraft schemes in different States in India. The circumstances under which Tibetan refugees took shelter in India have not materially changed and, as such, they continue to stay as Tibetan refugees in the Country.

Sri Lankan: Due to ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, about 2,76,000 Sri Lankan refugees arrived in India upto 31.12.1999. While majority of the refugees have since been repatriated by the Government or are believed to have left India on their own, at present, about 66,500 refugees are accommodated in 129 camps in Tamil Nadu and 30,000, registered with Government of Tamil Nadu, are reportedly staying outside the camps in Tamil Nadu.

The policy of the Government is to discourage further influx of refugees and necessary steps have been taken in consultation with the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs for arranging their early repatriation to Sri Lanka. The expenditure incurred on relief to Sri Lankan refugees by Governments is being reimbursed by the Central Government. These reliefs include shelter in camps, cash assistance, clothing and subsidised ration and medical facilities.

Government servants joining RSS

1401. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government servants in the State of Gujarat have been allowed to participate in the activities of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it will not interfere in the neutrality in the working of Government servants in that State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what will be its repercussions at the all India level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat *vide* their Order dated 3.1.2000 have recently lifted the ban on their State Government employees from participating in the activities of RSS.

(c) to (e) In terms of entry No. 41 under 'List II-State List' of the VII Schedule to the Constitution of India, State Public Services are within the exclusive purview of the respective State Governments.